

REMARKS

In the Decision, the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences affirmed the Examiner's former rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102 and 35 U.S.C. §103. In response, Applicant respectfully amends sole independent claim 132 to include all of the limitations of allowed claim 1 of related U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/773,502 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,698,538). Dependent claims 134, 136, 145-150 are amended to correspond to comply with amended claim 131. Thus, claims 134-150 are now narrower in scope than allowed claim 1 of the related '502 application and should therefore be allowable as well.

Applicant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 05516/089001).

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attachments